

Application No. 10/540,354
Reply to Office Action of July 25, 2007

Docket No.: 209546-98123

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 were pending in this application. By this paper, the specification has been amended. By this paper, claims 1, 2, 4 and 9 are amended, claims 7-8 are cancelled, and claims 10-12 are added. Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 9-12 are now pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. The Specification

The Office Action objected to the specification due to new matter at paragraph [0009]. Applicant has cancelled the object-to subject matter at paragraph [0009]. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant has cancelled limitations in claim 1 as well as claims 7-8. Applicant submits that the above amendment to claim 1 and the cancellation of claims 7-8 overcomes the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office action rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over EP0995568A1. In light of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to further define the claimed method. It is submitted that the claimed method, as amended in claim 1, is not anticipated by the art of record. Claims 2-6 and 9 depend from claim 1 and include patentable subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-6 and 9 is hereby requested.

IV. New Claims

Applicant has added new claims 10-12. Claims 10-12 are supported by the originally-filed specification. Applicant submits that the art or record does not anticipate new claims 10-12. Allowance of claims 10-12 is hereby requested.

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Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-3145, under Order No. 209546-98123 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,
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